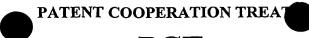
Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 DEC 2004





PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER AC	ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International application No.	International filing date	e (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)				
PCT/FR2003/002008	27 juin 2003 (27.06.2003)	28 juin 2002 (28.06.2002)				
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C02F 1/48							
Applicant SA DESCHAMPS-LATHUS							
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.						
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).							
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.							
This report contains indications rela	ting to the following iten	ns:					
I Basis of the report	I Basis of the report						
II Priority	II Priority						
III Non-establishment	III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
· · ·	IV Lack of unity of invention						
V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
VI Certain documents cited							
VII Certain defects in th	VII Certain defects in the international application						
VIII Certain observation	VIII Certain observations on the international application						
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report					
29 décembre 2003 (29.12.2003)		23 November 2004 (23.11.2004)					
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP		Authorized officer					
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.					

Translation



I. Basis	I. Basis of the report						
1. With	regard to t	he elements of the international application:*					
	the intern	ational application as originally filed					
	the descri	iption:					
د ع	pages	1-20 , as originally fi	iled				
	pages	, filed with the dem	and				
	pages _	, filed with the letter of					
	the claim						
	pages	1-13 , as originally fi	iled				
	pages	, as amended (together with any statement under Article	: 19				
	pages	, filed with the dem	and				
	pages _	, filed with the letter of					
	the drawi						
		1/3-3/3 , as originally f	filed				
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Thes	the language the language or 55.3). The regard to minary example of the state of the state of the language or 55.3. The state of the	o any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international amination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: d in the international application in written form. ether with the international application in computer readable form. d subsequently to this Authority in written form. d subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. tement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in onal application as filed has been furnished. ement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing	and/ onal the				
4.	this repo	endments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos the drawings, sheets/fig out has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	o go				
in th and	nis report 70.17).	neets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referre as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 7 nt sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.	?d to '0.16				

NO

v .	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
1.	Statement							
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-13	YES				
		Claims		NO				
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-13	YES				
		Claims		NO				
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES				
		Claims		NO				

2. Citations and explanations

> None of the cited documents relates to a method for 1. treating pipelines containing stagnant water in order to remove contaminants.

The most relevant documents are:

D1: US-A-6 056 884, which describes the continuous pasteurisation of liquids in a device in which the liquid flows through an electrical field. not describe the formation of a closed loop or the dissipation of electrical energy into heat by Joule effect.

D2: US-A-5 241 147, which discloses the heat treatment of pipes by dissipating electrical energy into heat so as to prevent the formation of hydrates as well as to enhance the transport of liquids such as hydrocarbons.

D3: EP-A-0 685 987, which describes the pasteurisation of liquids in a device in which the conductive tubular reactor walls are connected to an electrical energy generator and said electrical energy is dissipated into heat. D3 does not

describe the formation of a closed loop or the generation of a variable magnetic current through said loop.

It follows that the subject matter of claims 1 and 4 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve is that of overcoming the drawbacks of the known method for the heat treatment of the domestic water supply system (see the description, page 2, lines 17-20).

The solution to this problem, as proposed in claims 1 and 4 of the present application, is advantageous in that it involves local heat treatment. This makes it possible to treat only those parts of the system in which bacteria are likely to develop, namely pipelines containing stagnant water. Such local treatment enables energy consumption to be reduced and does not require the system to be put out of service while the method is being carried out.

As a result, this solution is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

3. The dependent claims also fulfil, as such, the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.